

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

JESSE R ABRAMS,

Plaintiff,

v.

JEFFREY SHAFFER,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 3:22-cv-05714-JCC-JRC

PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

This is a civil rights action brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Defendant has now filed an answer to plaintiff's complaint. Accordingly, the Court hereby establishes the following pretrial schedule:

(1) Discovery

All discovery shall be completed by **July 7, 2023**. Service of responses to interrogatories and to requests to produce, and the taking of depositions, shall be completed by this date. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 33(a) requires answers or objections to be served within thirty (30) days after service of the interrogatories. The serving party, therefore, must serve his/her

1 interrogatories at least thirty (30) days before the deadline in order to allow the other party time
2 to answer.

3 Discovery requests and responses must not be filed unless they are used in the
4 proceedings. LCR 5(d). In other words, a “party should not file discovery requests or discovery
5 materials with the court unless the party is moving to compel . . . or is otherwise supporting a
6 motion.” *Slack v. Woodbury*, No. C19-159-RSM-BAT, 2019 WL 1514552, at *1 (W.D. Wash.
7 Apr. 8, 2019).

8 (2) Motion to Compel Discovery

9 Any motion to compel discovery shall be filed not later than **June 16, 2023**. When filing a
10 motion to compel, the parties must first confer and attempt to resolve their differences without
11 court action. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 (a)(1); LCR 37(a)(1). If unable to resolve their differences,
12 the party filing the discovery motion must, either within the motion to compel or in a separate
13 affidavit attached to the motion to compel, file a certification listing the date, manner, and
14 participants to the conference. If the party filing the discovery motion fails to include such a
15 certification, the court may deny the motion without addressing the merits of the dispute. *See* Fed.
16 R. Civ. P. 37; LCR 37(a)(1).

17 The motion to compel must: (1) list the matters on which the parties were unable to agree;
18 (2) identify the nature and relevance of the documents and materials sought; (3) list the reason(s)
19 why the mandatory initial disclosures were inadequate; and, (4) explain why the discovery sought
20 is proportional to the needs of the case, considering the importance of the issues at stake in the
21 action, the amount in controversy, the parties’ relative access to relevant information, the parties’
22 resources, the importance of the discovery in resolving the issues, and whether the burden or
23 expense of the proposed discovery outweighs its likely benefit.
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1 (3) Dispositive Motions

2 Any dispositive motion shall be filed and served on or before **August 7, 2023**. Pursuant
3 to LCR 7(b), any argument being offered in support of a motion shall be submitted as a part of
4 the motion itself and not in a separate document. The motion shall include in its caption
5 (immediately below the title of the motion) a designation of the date the motion is to be noted for
6 consideration upon the Court's motion calendar. Dispositive motions shall be noted for
7 consideration on a date no earlier than the fourth Friday following filing and service of the
8 motion. LCR 7(d)(3).

9 All briefs and affidavits in opposition to any motion shall be filed and served pursuant to
10 the requirements of Rule 7 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and LCR 7. The party
11 making a motion may file and serve a reply to the opposing party's briefs and affidavits. Any
12 reply brief shall also be filed and served pursuant to the requirements of Rule 7 of the Federal
13 Rules of Civil Procedure and LCR 7.

14 Defendant is reminded that they MUST serve *Rand* and *Wyatt* notices, in a separate
15 document, concurrently with motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment so that *pro*
16 *se* prisoner plaintiffs will have fair, timely, and adequate notice of what is required of them in
17 order to oppose those motions. *Woods v. Carey*, 684 F.3d 934, 941 (9th Cir. 2012). The Ninth
18 Circuit has set forth model language for such notices:

19 A motion for summary judgment under Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of
20 Civil Procedure will, if granted, end your case.

21 Rule 56 tells you what you must do in order to oppose a motion for summary
22 judgment. Generally, summary judgment must be granted when there is no
23 genuine issue of material fact – that is, if there is no real dispute about any
24 fact that would affect the result of your case, the party who asked for
summary judgment is entitled to judgment as a matter of law, which will
end your case. When a party you are suing makes a motion for summary
judgment that is properly supported by declarations (or other sworn

testimony), you cannot simply rely on what your complaint says. Instead, **you must set out specific facts in declarations, depositions, answers to interrogatories, or authenticated documents, as provided in Rule 56(e), that contradict the facts shown in the defendant's declarations and documents and show that there is a genuine issue of material fact for trial. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition, summary judgment, if appropriate, may be entered against you. If summary judgment is granted, your case will be dismissed and there will be no trial.**

Rand v. Rowland, 154 F.3d 952, 963 (9th Cir. 1998) (emphasis added); *see Wyatt v. Terhune*, 315 F.3d 1108, 1120 n.14 (9th Cir. 2003) (extending the fair notice requirement to motions to dismiss for failure to exhaust administrative remedies). Defendants who fail to file and serve the required *Rand* and *Wyatt* notices on the plaintiff may have their motion stricken from the Court's calendar with leave to re-file.

(4) Joint Pretrial Statement

The parties are advised that a due date for filing a Joint Pretrial Statement may be established at a later date pending the outcome of any dispositive motions.

(5) Proof of Service and Sanctions

All motions, pretrial statements, and other filings shall be accompanied by proof that such documents have been served upon counsel for the opposing party or upon any party acting *pro se*. The proof of service shall show the day and manner of service and may be by written acknowledgment of service, by certificate of a member of the bar of this Court, by affidavit of the person who served the papers, or by any other proof satisfactory to the Court. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Order can result in dismissal/default judgment or other appropriate sanctions.

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1 (6) Extensions

2 The deadlines contained in this Order are firm and will not be extended by the Court except
3 upon application to the Court with a showing of good cause.

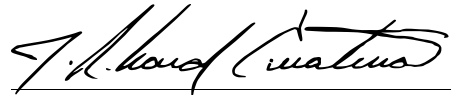
4 (7) Address

5 The parties are to promptly update the Court with any change of address or other contact
6 information.

7 (8) Instructions to Clerk

8 The Clerk of Court is directed to send a copy of this Order to plaintiff and to counsel for
9 defendant.

10 Dated this 7th day of February, 2023.

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12 J. Richard Creatura
13 United States Magistrate Judge
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